

Health News Release

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Sex abuse charges lead to revocation for Snohomish County area optometrist

OLYMPIA — Sexual abuse of a 10-year-old girl who sought treatment has led state health officials to permanently revoke the optometry license of John O'Brien (OD.OD.60385727).

The sexual contact by O'Brien took place when the female patient went for an exam in August 2014. Law enforcement authorities also found pictures taken of the girl during the incident on O'Brien's cellular phone.

The revocation completes the legal process that started with the immediate suspension of his license October 22, 2014. O'Brien has no right to reapply for an optometry license in Washington. The board of optometry referred the case to the secretary of health because it was a sexual misconduct action.

The documents in this case can be seen online by clicking "Look up a health care provider" on the <u>Department of Health website</u>; copies can be requested by calling 360-236-4700. That's also the number to call to file complaints against health care providers in Washington.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

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